



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**December 4, 2017**

### **Statement from Attorney General Cynthia H. Coffman on the United States District Court's Dismissal with Prejudice of *Colorado River Ecosystem V. The State Of Colorado***

#### Statement from Attorney General Coffman:

“The United States District Court has dismissed with prejudice the Colorado River Ecosystem's Amended Complaint against Colorado. The Colorado River Ecosystem asked for the dismissal after my office filed a motion to dismiss the amended complaint. Under the terms of dismissal, the case cannot be brought again in federal court. I do not doubt the personal convictions of those groups and individuals who claimed to speak on behalf of the ecosystem. However, the case itself unacceptably impugned the State's sovereign authority to administer natural resources for public use, and was well beyond the jurisdiction of the judicial branch of government. After my office presented counsel with these and other realities, he readied and wisely chose to withdraw the case. Colorado has always been a national leader in preserving our environment, and we will continue to protect and administer its natural resources as guaranteed by the Constitution.”

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#### **CONTACT**

Annie Skinner  
Colorado Attorney General's Office  
720-508-6553  
[Annie.skinner@coag.gov](mailto:Annie.skinner@coag.gov)